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Want Column

One cent a word.
Nothing inserted for less than 15c.

FOUND—The best place in Belding to get a good shoe shine. Electric Shoe Shop, 120 S. Bridge St.

FOR SALE—Clover or timothy hay. Art Werner, phone 265 1-L 1-S. 61-18-1f

FOR SALE—Registered Short Horn bull, 2 1/2 years old. Ed. Reeves, Smyrna, Mich., Phone 127-3. 31-24-1f

FOR SALE—On contract, house at 222 Front street, \$12.00 down and \$12.00 per month. P. P. Kyser, Peck, Mich., Box 13. 36-24-1f

FOR SALE—Oil heater, good as new. 213 W. Center Street. 41-25-1f

FOR SALE—Having decided to go west will sell at a bargain, our real estate and personal property. Call and see us evenings and Sundays. W. H. Fritch, 534 Merrick Ave.

FOR RENT—Good five room house, \$5.00 per month. W. B. Travis, phone 195-R. 56-26-1f

FOR SALE—A few pieces of household furniture in first class condition, viz., Singer sewing machine, writing desk, large mirror, music cabinet, leather couch, solid oak dining table, etc. Mrs. George Hubbard, Phone 119 94-30-1

WANTED—Logs or standing timber, any place, all kinds and grades suitable for merchantable ties or lumber. Will receive in car loads at your nearest R. R. station. For details write, call or telephone 2698. John Pease, Log Agent, French Lumber & Mfg. Co., Lansing, Mich. 83-29-4

WANTED—Wood ashes. I will pay 5 cents a bushel for them. Fred L. Reeves, Phone 272-21-1s. 84-29-2

FLOWERS—For weddings, funerals, parties and all other occasions. Call Miss Cecelia Hanson, Phone 249-3r. Prompt service and first quality stock

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CONSERVATION OF LABOR

In years past we in America have been prodigal in all things. We have been careless with our natural resources, we have drawn relentlessly on the fertility of our soils, and we have frequently shown poor judgment in the utilization of the one item which is more costly in America than anywhere else in the world—the item of labor. Being Americans we did what we pleased and when we pleased, regardless.

For a concrete example let us consider the annual distribution of labor in the fertilizer factories of the country. In March and April twice as many men were employed as in the months of November and December. Why? Simply because the vast majority of orders were filled in March and shipments were nearly all demanded in March or April.

The same unequal distribution of labor prevailed among the farmers to whom the fertilizer industry sold its goods. During November and December farmers and their labor had as little to do as at any time of the year, and in March and April they were as busy as bees. Taking a day or two from plowing or sowing in order to haul fertilizer was as painful as pulling teeth. Yet that was exactly when the hauling was done.

Why was not the fertilizer ordered in November and hauled home in December or January? The manufacturer would have welcomed the orders and he could and would have given them better attention; roads were usually better for hauling in winter than in early spring, and there would have been none of this delay at the all-important time of seeding.

It would have been so easy to have gained this better distribution of labor and saved so much for both parties. But it took a big war and a terrific shortage of labor to make us realize that early orders and early shipments were much more satisfactory, far less costly, and not productive of the anxious delays so common under the old system.

"DAFFY DINGLE"
SAYS EXPLOSIVES
CAUSE OF "FLU"

SAYS POISON GERMS, SETTLING
AFTER LONG FLIGHT IN AIR
SPREAD DISEASE AND
DEATH.

The following from the pen of a former contributor to this paper is one of the many theories being given out by various people who are trying to study out what is the cause of the great spread of the "flu." The writer is a well known and well posted man in this town who sails under the nom de plume of "Daffy Dingle" instead of signing his real name.

Some of our readers may think that he really is daffy, while still others may think that his theory is the exact solution of the big problem. His article is as follows:

"A Theory," by Daffy Dingle.
In times gone by I have written several articles for your paper, which articles were published under the signature and as there is a ban on congregating at the smoke house on account of the "flu" and not being allowed to congregate on the streets, or in the stores or public places to air our mental vapors, tell our grievances and argue our theories and not having anyone to preach to, I thought I would unburden my long pent up theories and air out the musty cobwebs of my brain, by unloading the vapors of the thought cells of my think tank in the columns of your Banner-News.

I remember that when my great grandmother was a child, facts were fewer and folks were crazy for them. They had to be contented to live greatly upon "theory." But many of the theories of that day have since become facts through being tested, while many of them have been proven false and cast aside, for facts are what people crave for and they produce knowledge and knowledge is power.

It is just the same today as then. Theory always comes first and by being tested out, becomes a fact or it is proven a false theory. If a fact, it becomes a benefit to mankind and if it is proven false it is cast into the heap of oblivion, never to rise again. In either case we gain knowledge and knowledge thus gained is power and the world is benefitted and makes progress accordingly.

Just now, as there should be, there are many theories in regard to the source, cause and treatment of what is called influenza, or "flu" for short. It would be wise, I think, to test out those theories and see which is false and which is fact. Here would be the chance for some scientific guy who has the knowledge and paraphernalia to do something great by proving a theory and producing a fact to benefit all mankind and the world at large, thus producing another drop of knowledge to the great supply we already have on hand and which is yet to increase.

Any person may produce a theory and it is his privilege and will stand until it is proven false. There have been many such theories stated and practiced upon until they have assumed all of the qualities of fact and stood for years, until in time they would be proven false and thrown on the junk heap.

Now, I have a theory in regard to this so called flu epidemic which is such a plague to the people and I, as at the present time as none seem to know the source, or cure or the proper treatment of influenza. First, I think the cause may be attributed to a poisoned atmosphere. Second, this poisoned atmosphere is produced by the explosions of nitrates, causing a super abundance of nitrates in the air, which would be detrimental to health. Third, the sending out of enormous volumes of poison gas during the war would naturally make the atmosphere to a more or less degree, unhealthy and decidedly poisonous.

This has all been brought about through man's inhumanity to man. Partly by his wisdom in investigating natural laws he found out new methods to kill people and through ignorance of not investigating further, he produced this plague, the flu. This would scout the idea that was sent by

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Real Estate and Insurance
Phone 54

the Almighty to punish man for his wickedness and I doubt not that all plagues have had their source from the same cause—namely through ignorance of natural laws, or by the wilful violation of them wherever known.

It is a fact that in nature there is never anything lost but will always exist in some form or other through out all eternity. Things are always undergoing a change in Nature's laboratory which puts to shame the puny chemical apparatus of man. And it may be that if my theory is true, that man's ignorance has caused this flu plague, that he has achieved one of the greatest means to perpetuate life and make this earth a paradise to live in—No doubt the flu has been a great cause of death, and is yet if my theory be true. There is no doubt but that in time Nature's workshop, through chemical changes, by electricity, by precipitation, absorption, filtration, heat, cold, compression distillation, chemical affinity, etc. will again purify the air and all parasites, microbes, bacteria and insect pests not having lungs to breathe with will all be destroyed by the poison gases and man will come into his rightful inheritance and the age of man shall become as the age of a tree—"he shall sit beneath his own vine and figtree and none to hinder or make afraid."

This would be a sad plight for the doctors and druggists (and I can not help giving them a rub) for sickness and disease in a manner would be banished and the doctors would have to shut up shop and our friends the druggists could carry their stock of pills, plasters and poisons in a paper shoe box. These things, according to prophecy must come to pass as well as did the great war.

But, I must say that there is one freak of the "flu" that I can not account for. I noted in last week's Banner-News at the election of officers of the W. R. C., that one faction could not attend the meeting on account of the "flu." It seems that the other faction was not so afflicted and they got away with all the glory and honor and plums, so to speak. It looks rather queer; couldn't they have been the hand of Providence that interfered to deprive them of their grip, could it? May be they had had it their way long enough and so now let the other side have a try. We men have been fooled that way too, ladies, but be truly democratic and let the majority rule.

Daffy Dingle.

CABBAGE HIGH SPOTS

Profits Depend Either on Early Maturity or on Heavy Yields.

Best possible yields of cabbage interest you whether you grow a garden patch or a field of 25 acres; whether you grow it for kraut or for early market. The profit you make on your early crop depends to a very large extent upon how large a percent of it matures soon enough for the high early prices. The profit you make on your late crop depends to a large extent on how many tons per acre you grow.

Practical experience shows that you can do a great deal to control the yield—the percent of early matured heads, and the quality of your crop. Such information means dollars to you.

If you want prize-winning cattle you feed them an abundance of well-balanced food. You can get profitable bumper cabbage crops by proper crop feeding.

Maryland experiment station says: "Late cabbage especially does not do well on land that has been cropped every year (without a grass or legume crop intervening between hoed crops), but if a piece of sod land, even if somewhat thin, can be given 750 pounds of commercial fertilizer with a light dressing of stable manure, it will invariably produce a good crop."

How to Apply.

A complete fertilizer should be applied at the time the cabbage ground is being prepared to receive the plants. This is best done by drilling in the fertilizer with a grain drill fitted with fertilizer attachment, or by broadcast with a lime and fertilizer broadcaster. When the latter method is followed, be careful to work in the fertilizer by thorough disking and harrowing.

POTATOES CRY FOR POTASH

Phoma stem blight is the name of the new disease which has created so much trouble in the big potato-growing sections during the past summer. Growers have become greatly alarmed and have appealed to Washington for aid.

The specialists, however, do not think the disease will be serious, nor do they think that it will be hard to control. It seems that it appears only under exceptional conditions of weather and malnutrition.

The department officials are inclined to lay the major portion of the blame on unbalanced fertilizer—that is, using fertilizer lacking potash. They claim that this disease will disappear on remedying the condition of malnutrition and recommend that next year a fertilizer containing as high as 2 per cent potash be applied. Fortunately American sources of supply can now furnish this food in sufficient quantities.

When scabby potatoes are fed to stock, infection of the disease is carried in the manure. Even cooking the potatoes fails to kill the resistant spores. For this reason it is really safer to use fertilizer on potatoes than to use manure.

ILLEGAL LIFE WITH
HIS GIRL COUSIN
LANDS MAN IN JAIL

GAVE STORY OF MARITAL WOES
WITH UNFAITHFUL WIFE AND
CLAIMED GIRL A DAUGHTER

Ed. Dempke, giving his age as 35, was sentenced late last week in a Kent county court to from 3 to 15 years in Jackson prison and his cousin, Myrtle Dempke, aged 15 years, who had been living with him for several years, was sent to the state institution for girls of her kind, at Adrian. The action of the court was the result of an investigation carried on by Kent county officials in which it was ascertained that the pair were living together illegally and that the girl was in reality a cousin of the man who claimed her as his daughter. The girl acquiesced in this contention with her cousin and passed out the deceptive information as freely as did the man until they were confronted with the real facts concerning them.

Dempke and the girl came from up near Traverse City a little more than two years ago and claiming that the man's unfaithful wife had deserted the husband and daughter, elicited pity and sympathy from local people with whom they came in contact and they spent a short time in this city. Later on they arrived at the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Shindorf, south of town and under the pretense that they were a seriously wronged father and daughter, rented rooms in the spacious farm house and lived there for some time. Dempke frequently told the Shindorf family of how he had been wronged and the girl always bore him out in whatever he said in regard to his married life.

On several occasions however, when Mr. and Mrs. Shindorf or other of the neighbors entered the rooms occupied by the pair, they acted as if they had been caught in a trap and finally, when Mrs. Shindorf, suspecting that something must be wrong with the two, told Dempke that his presence and that of the girl was obnoxious and that they had better leave. Dempke scented rather strong suspicion directed toward him in the neighborhood and quietly passed on to a place over in Grattan township.

It was while living there that the matter was called to the attention of the authorities in Kent county and an investigation started which had as its outcome the landing of Dempke in Jackson prison for an indefinite period and the placing of the girl in the state institution for girls at Adrian, for a least several years to come.

The investigation revealed the fact that the parents of the girl were both dead and that she had been brought away from her former home by her cousin and that she had resided with him since.

While residing in this section, it is stated by people who knew the pair, that Dempke provided fairly well for his companion.

SUNNYSIDE

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Mittleberger were guests at Sunnyside Farm, on Monday evening to a 6 o'clock tea.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Skellenger were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Bradford on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Skellenger visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jake Wise one day last week.

All are well in this vicinity and the dandelions are in bloom.

SOLDIERS WRITE OF PART
THEY TOOK IN LAST DRIVE

(Continued from Page One)
I think that I prefer hunting rabbits to this work.

We are living in German buildings, eating their cabbage and burning their coal and I can tell you a lot of other things we are seeing and doing when I get home, but, oh, how I would like some of them good apples and some of that good chicken. Be sure and save some for me when I get home. I hope that you get all of my letters.

Well, France is some place, good land, but such a slow way of farming. They raise lots of grapes and they make lots of wine and oh, mother, I think the French people are awful good to us. They seem so pleased to see us soldiers, but it seems funny to be with people you can't understand and can't talk with. They treat us fine and the fact that we can't understand them makes no difference.

Well, mother, where is Bill Bakeman? I don't hear from him any more and he used to write to me real often. (The Bakeman boy referred to, died at Ann Arbor—in the service of his country.—Editor.) I suppose he is over here by this time. Gee, would like to see him. I see George Richardson and I tell you it seemed good to see some one from my home town. You knew his mother, didn't you?

Mother, I have been awful busy since I have been over here and have been on the go all of the time. I wish I could see Myrre Nichols, but I don't know where he is. Tell all of my friends hello and that I am feeling fine and am still very much alive.

With love to mother and dad, from your loving son.

Willis.

Otis Benson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Benson, of this city writes the following letter to his parents. Somewhere in France. Nov. 12, 1918.

Dear Folks at home—I haven't written for about a week or so and will try and write a few lines, after having heard the best news I have heard in many months and believe me it came just in time, as we were in a woods about one half mile back from the front ready to be taken in and take up front line positions at any time, when it came to us at about 9 o'clock that morning and I don't believe I will ever forget that day and hour.

I suppose there has been some celebrating there and I can imagine how all of you folks feel.

Our major was just here and read

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SANDELL'S BANK

In the Business in Belding More Than 22 Years.

us the conditions of the armistice and I figure that Germany was nearly all in, but he also told us that this division might be one of the divisions to take up positions along the German frontier, as guards. I surely hope not, for that means that we will be here for some time, but I could not kick if there is no scrapping, that you know. I am hard on the eyes.

I am not going to say anything of my experiences over here for it would take too much paper and I will try and remember the most important of them to tell you when I reach home. I don't know whether or not it is permissible to tell where we are, but that is not necessary, we are in good billets, getting good regular eats and I am feeling fine and want you folks to be careful and not take sick.

The weather has not been so very bad as yet, a little muddy but then mud is all I have seen since I have been here and I am getting quite used to that.

I haven't received any mail and have no money, but think we are going to get a little of the latter soon. All that we get a chance to spend money for is a little candy at the Y. We are going to a town about two miles from here to get a bath and some clean clothes and I think it is about time. I am not going to tell you how long it is since I took a bath for if I did you would be ashamed of your son.

One of the fellows that bunks beside me got thirteen letters the other day. I cannot see why I don't get any. I must surely have a lot on the way. Well, here is hoping that we will all soon be home, so dear folks, I will close with love to all, as ever, Otis. Answer soon.

Pvt. Otis Benson, 110th Inf. Co. K., A. E. F.

The following on a card was received this afternoon from A. L. Cichy, well known local man who is over in France with the U. S. forces. Somewhere in France. Nov. 21, 1918.

Five degrees below zero here this morning but it does not seem so very cold. Ohick.

To all my friends—May the waves and winds of the sea, wheresome your sailor sails, waft to home shores his eager thoughts of you on Christmas Day.

A. L. Cichy.

Bernie Oberlin recently received the following letter from his brother Kenneth, over on the other side of the pond, where the Yanks pushed old Bill Hohenzollern's toys back into their own country.

"Ken" Oberlin, White's. Oct. 11, 1918.

Dear Brother and Sister: Just received your letter today; sure was glad to hear from you folks. No, I haven't heard from Ray's folks for a long time. They don't write if I don't but it is one hard job to write over here. We are kept pretty busy for one thing, Lyle and Mike are sitting here playing cards while the big ones crack outside here. We would be lonesome if we couldn't hear them roar but guess we could get

along without it, what do you say?

I got a letter from Elon the other day. He asked me if I was at the front or way back. Guess he would think he was in the bad place if he was here. Lyle said they don't use him like that at home. It is the 4th of July every day and night over here but you get used to it soon. Come over and try it. Yes I hear from Ethel real often.

Capt. Hogarth says that I get more mail than any one in the regiment but I can't get too much for it gets lonesome up here. Lyle said he would like to hear from you folks. Say, has Bill Haskins got home yet? I guess he is coming. Poor Bill got out of a lot of hardship but I would rather go through that than get wounded. Well tell all my friends hello for me. Will write again soon, so good bye.

Kenneth M. Oberlin, Reg. Hdqrs., 16th Inf., A. E. F., A. P. O. 734.

Mr. and Mrs. M.-L. Udkie are in receipt of the following letter from their son, who is also over there where the big things have been going on for some time back.

Nov. 1, 1918.

Dear Mother and All: Just a line to let you know that we just came back from the front a few days ago and are in a rest camp taking things easy. Had a lot of exciting times and fine experience up on

the front; also got acquainted with a bunch of cooties. Am writing this by the light of a lantern made in Germany. Our kitchen is always with us, so we have plenty of eats and the Y. M. C. A. and Red Cross are always on hand with cigarettes, tobacco, chocolate, cookies, etc., which sure keeps the fellows in good spirits.

Last night was Halloween and I suppose you all had a good many parties etc., back in the states. Will be back enjoying the good times again before long. Have had no mail since coming over but am expecting a bunch of it in a few days. There are still four of us sergeants from Camp Grant sticking together so we don't have any lonesome moments. I take it for granted that everything is going along all right back home and that you have heard from me once or twice already; would have written more often but whenever I had time I couldn't get hold of any paper. I had to beg this from one of the fellows. We are having typical U. S. weather here with frosty nights and sunny days. Will close now and turn this in to the censor. Love to all.

Sergt. W. W. Udkie, Co. H, 111th Inf., A. E. F., France.

Greetings

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas.

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